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ARENA REPORT

Volume II, Number 19

2-man,
Hats will be
in this week.
Thanks for the
order.

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

Saturday, June 2, 1990

Ocean Center

Daytona Beach, FL

Welcome to issue #19 of the second volume of Arena Report. A loaded ish this time out as we have the most interesting letter section yet to hit "AR". I've got some wild people that read this sheet out there. Besides the above WWF sleeper, we have a report on an indy that Klon, Wrestling Forum's Jeff Siegel (in town on biz), and myself attended 6/1 at Patrick Air Force Base. We also have a special report from Scott Hudson on the Georgia All-Star Beach Brawl card that was held on May 28th. This was one zany card. It's fun reading. For all you subscribers on my case to cover indies more, this should satisfy your appetite for awhile. Evan Ginzburg and Mike Terry are back with their monthly columns along with the usual "Ramblings" and "Correspondent's Corner".

We'll be right back at you next week with another jammed ish as Klon and myself will be attending the NWA show in Orlando on June 9th and we'll be joined by Jeff Bowdren and Dave Flaherty at the NWA TV taping on June 11th in Ft. Pierce. The 11th is a Monday so I'll work on the issue Tuesday and it'll be in the mail on Wednesday. Next week we'll also head up Rte. 95 and to New Joisy to snag a column from every-ones fave nephew Jersey Joe Mullins. (We really need to talk to his uncle about this hiatus crap.) I'll definately be in Baltimore for the Bash PPV (as will just about every sheet editor). It looks like a record number of "smarts" will be there. Can you imagine if we're all in the first few rows. I hope we don't hear that chant go up..."Junkfood, Junkfood.." But I'm afraid we will. I'm not condoning it. But I guarantee it will happen. NWA will run a Bash the next night in Asbury Park, NJ (Is Juster out of his mind?) which some of us have been talking about attending even though its a three hour drive. 50/50 on that one.

Arena Report is published twice per month at the cost of 75¢ per issue. A number should appear at the top left corner of your first page indicating how many you have left on your sub. All subs, renewals, letters and match results may be sent to Ron Lemieux, 916 Sloewood Ct., Lake Mary, FL 32746. Before getting into the issue full bore, I'd like to explain something. I received two Ocala reports back in my box last week that were returned due to them being unclaimed at the Post Office due to postage being due. They were sample issues I had sent out. Needless to say, those two people will never be "AR" subscribers as I'd be pissed too. If any of you had to pay extra postage (which shouldn't have happened but when you have people like Scott Dickinson working for the post office, what do you expect?) let me know and I'll take care of it and I'm sorry if it happened. Now, let's go to Jake Robert's favorite city.

Opening Match

Al Perez beat Jim Powers in 10:44. Al looked terrible. He worked way too loose. Powers pushed him into the ropes to roll him up, but Al used tights to reverse it for the pin. $\frac{1}{2}$ *

2nd Match

Jimmy Snuka topped Akeem in 7:49 when the "Dream" missed a corner charge

and Snuka did the schoolboy trick and pin. Wonder if Snuka's bump on his back is related to Flair's. -**

3rd Match

Barbarian beat Hercules with a boot to the face in 8:06. Hope Herc didn't catch any sun while in Florida. The guys skin is so white he'd look like a lobster. Hey, a new gimmick. Herc "The Lobster" Hernandez with the nerve pincher for his finish. Match sucked much like that joke. $\frac{1}{4}$ *

Tag Team Match

Bushwhackers beat Rhythm & Blues via DQ in 14:08. Valentine had Butch's arms wrapped around the ringpost when Honkey grabbed a chair but missed with the swing. The chair cracked the post. (sounded good) Honkey got great heat with the ringsiders. Dud

5th Match

Tugboat pinned Brian Knobbs at 8:41 in a battle of former PWFers. Knobbs wrestled as one of the Nasty Boys for the PWF. Bravo was a no-show. John Lanigan always said the Nasties were tailor made for the WWF. Tuggie won with a big splash from the second rope which took him 3 minutes to get up there. Horrible. -***

6th Match

Earthquake over Hacksaw Duggan in 7:55. Hart intros Quake now. Hacker is still over like crazy. Duggan was going after Hart when Quake clobbered him from behind and used the earthquake to pin him. Afterwards, Duggan used his piece of plank to plunk Quake and the fans quickly forgot Hacksnore lost. Stupid. *

WWF Intercontinental Title

Brutus Beefcake beat Curt Hennig via count out in 12:02. Hennig has new boots that say Mr. P. They look cool. He was doing three-sixtys all over the place. Curt went to whip Bruti into the ringpost but Beefer reversed it and Hennig got counted out. Amazing that people still think a title can change hands on a technicality. $**\frac{1}{2}$

Daytona Notes- Crowd was 3,800 and for that main event, I guess it's not bad....Rhythm & Blues came out after the first bout to sing their song. Everytime I see them do it, they're never in sync with the words..... Before intermission, the ring announcer was hawking an Ultimate T- shirt. The place booded big time. The fans are pissed that Warrior won the belt from Hogan.

PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE

Cocoa, FL

June 1, 1990

1) Robbie Idol pinned Masked Superstar with a small package in 14:13. Superstar was Bob Cook. This was the best bout of the night. ** Bad omen eh? 2) Bobby Doll defended his Gulf Coast title beating Jack "The Ripper" Stevans in 13:29. Doll looks like Steve Doll of the Southern Rockers. They did some great stuff on the floor while the ref was out with Stevans giving a DDT on the cement to Doll. But then, he gets in the ring and argues with the ref and Doll rolls him up from behind. What a waste of an angle. $*\frac{1}{2}$ 3) Mark "Monster Man" Mero & Rick Ryder won the Central Wrestling Federation tag belts from Rick Diamond and Brady Higgins in two out of three falls in a total of 19:54. Ryder juiced. Dud. 4) Cliff Sheets beat Mr. Everything (cousin of Mr. Perfect) in 9:21. -* 5) Leilani Kai won the ladies title from Bambi in 20:57. Penelope Paradise was

handcuffed to Abdullah Farouck Jr.. Peggy Lee Leather came out and hit Paradise while the security guard unlocked the cuffs to let Farouck out. He threw salt in Bambi's eyes and Kai pinned her. Decent booked match but why did the security guard unlock the cuffs? * 6) Rick Diamond won a ten man battle royal in 2:14. Look at that time. This was the worst battle royal I had ever seen. As soon as the bell rang, guys were flying over the ropes. -***** 7) Adrian Street beat Buddy Landell on a DQ in 11:49. Yes, Landell was there. Farouck was his manager. Comedy (and bad at that) for first 6:00. They shouldn't have worked the rest. It stunk. Street had Buddy in a sleeper when Abby ran in for the DQ. Miss Linda came in to even things out. Landell has lost a few pounds since PWF days but could stand to lose a few more. NOTES- Grades are combined from Klon, Jeff, and myself. We stayed up until 3:00 a.m. watching tapes and shooting the bull. It was just a continuation from the show as thats all they did there. (Jeff and Klon)A kid came up to Klon and asked for his autograph. He thought the Klonster was a wrestler. Ha Ha....The matches stunk but it was great seeing Mr. Barometer again and the three of us had alot of fun.

Ramblings

Hulk Hogan has signed a multi-picture deal with New Line Cinema. One of the stips of the deal was that Hogan will not portray any wrestlers. That was his clause. Where that leaves Vince is anyone's guess but I can't see Hulk returning full time ever....Scott Hudson said that after the Gainesville tapings, JYD and Butch Reed left together. There were lots of kids outside who saw that. And then they worry about smart fans exposing the biz....The Kerry Von Erich story pisses me off. He no showed one night in Alabama and then was told not to miss the Gainesville tapes or he'd be fired. So he didn't show up there either. The guy was hired and fired without even stepping into the ring. There's a guy that epitomizes Fred Blassie's saying, "The brain the size of a bee-bee"... Norman got himself in the doghouse by bad mouthing Ole Anderson before Ole got the book....There was talk at the Gainesville tapings of throwing Scott and his friend out of the tapings. No reason, just that they report to the sheets. The Herd mafia....Glad to see they're making Paul E and Cornette remain enemies. That whole angle last year would have been a waste of time....Mr. Wrestling II's son to get a tryout as NWA referee.... As you can see by the Pittsburgh report, Lex Luger returned 6/1. I've had arthrisopic surgery on my knee before and I wouldn't do any exercise that quickly. The guy is nuts....Strong talk that Tully Blanchard is NWA bound as a babyface....Buddy Landell debuted at the NWA tapings last week. He told me at the Patrick show that he would be working a program with Flair. Either he was lying to me or they're lying to him.... NWA 6/2 in Baltimore drew 1,500 for Flair-JYD while same night in Boston for WWF before 6,000 saw Warrior pin Rude to defend the belt. Will have full reports next week....With Rude already doing the job for Warrior, I can see Rick turning face due to a dispute with Heenan over his involvement with Hennig....Dino Bravo no-showed Daytona because he was in Boston beating Jose Luis Rivera....Terry Taylor also a no show in Beantown.... Personalities seperated at birth, Missy Hyatt and Madonna....Only in America could wrestlers like John Tenta and Fred Ottman get a huge push.... WPIX NWA show is no longer a special dubbed commentary for NY market. Probably will wait until September show at Meadowlands before they revert back to it....Main Event magazine to due a "Ring Rat Bikini Contest" layout. Well, it's not really called that but it might as well be.... If it's true Thunderbolt Patterson is coming in to manage Junkyard Dog, I'll invite Natas over to play with George....What's next, Jim Wilson.... 5/31 in Tampa for PWF saw Steve Keirn & Lou Perez beat Ron Slinker & Robert

(Continued on page 6)

BEACH BRAWL '90

(A WRAP-UP OF GEORGIA ALL-STAR WRESTLING'S SPRING SHOW BY SCOTT HUDSON)

What is so frightening about doing a special correspondent's report for Ron Lemieux's "Arena Reports" is that I may now be likened to Jeff Zinger, Evan Ginsburg, and Jersey Joe Mullins. Tell me, have I really sunk that low!? (Hey wait, I was just kidding guys.....Really.)

On Monday May 28, 1990, GAW held the first annual Beach Brawl at Allatoona Landing at the Lake Allatoona Resort Area in Bartow County, Georgia. This is about 45 minutes north of Atlanta, just outside of the metropolitan Atlanta area. With a crowd of about 160 in attendance, promoter Joe Pedicino and booker Nick Busick put on one hell of a show. Without further ado, let's get right to the results, shall we?

1) John "The Bugman" Michaels vs. Bad Billy Black: The stip for this allowed a pinfall anywhere. Keeping in mind that the ring was constructed on a 5 foot high dry dock that was surrounded on 3 sides by beach and 1 side by water, you can imagine what happened. Both wrestlers are good workers with Black being an exceptionally good performer (doing moonsalts, etc.) Black is the son of longtime NWA jobber Bill White. They stayed in the ring about 3 minutes before Michaels took the bump to the beach. They worked in the sand another 4 minutes with the ref counting several near falls into the beach. They finally worked their way to the water, doing backdrops, suplexes, and the like before Michaels pinned Black (yes, Black was completely submerged as was the referee). Crazy & great. **

2) The Dixie Mafia(Mike Golden & Big Daddy) vs. Jimmy Powell & The Nightmare: This was the first of 2 first round matches for the Georgia Tag Team Championship tournament. Golden pinned Powell using an "international" object. (Hey, I'm from Atlanta.) 1/2*

3) Thunder & Lightning (Dino Minelli & Steve Lawler) vs. Festus & Grizzly (The Blue Ridge Hillbillies): ~~Grizzly is Grizzly Boone formerly Commando Boone of NWA fame. Lawler and Minelli brke up at the TV tapings a week ago and broke up at this show and were counted out. Lawler & Minelli are decent brawlers. Oh yeah, Festus used to work as Handsome Billy Starr, with "work" being a very subjective term. DUD~~

4) The Invader vs. Mr. Wrestling II: There were mask vs. mask stip in this one. II is still over as his his "Million Dollar Knee". He used it as a finisher to gain the pin over Invader (Mark Smith, never worked anywhere else.) When Invader unmasked as a rather short, well-built guy with curly hair, I leaned over to Pedicino and Chris Love seated nearby and said "I didn't know you were using Dave Meltzer as the Invader!" I got a huge pop for that one....right in the teeth. DUD

5)Peggy Lee Leather vs. Bambi: For Georgia Ladies Title. It sucked. DUD

6)Joel Deaton vs. Randy Rose: This was an Escape From Alcatraz match. Deaton and the ref were transported to this treeless island in the middle of the beach inlet in a pontoon boat. The boat returned to shore and brought Rose to the island. The guys then wouked a solid match on the island (with no ring, a truly incredible sight) using backdrops, dropkicks, bulldogs, etc. Suddenly from atop one of the nearby houseboats, Shotgun Tony Gage screams and jumps into the lake in wrestling gear. He swims to the island and helps Deaton double team Rose while the ref is out following a bump. Gage hides on the downside of the island as Deaton awakens the ref for a pin on Rose. However, the stip said that the winner was the first to reach the ring on shore, so Rose bolts up and dives into the water and begins swimming toward the beach where the ring and the fans are. Gage and Deaton then follow. Rose swims to a dive dock upon which is a ten foot, wooden lifeguard stand containing an unsuspecting (literally) lifeguard. Rose shakes the poor guy out of the stand and into the water before Deaton joins him on the dive dock. The guys then work on the dock doing every insane move you can think of. Rose then climbs to top of the lifeguard stand and is soon joined there by Deaton. Gage remains in the water. As Rose and Deaton exchange punches at the top of the stand, Rose clotheslines Deaton who then takes a back first bump ten or eleven feet down into the water. Rose begins swimming toward the

beach. As the three reach the waterline, another brawl ensues with Rose eventually freeing himself and reaching the ring for the victory. Gage and Deaton double team Rose and leave him laying following the finish. This is an absolute must-see for video tape buffs. Possible match of the year candidate if enough people can see it. ***1/2

7) The Blue Ridge Hillbillies vs. Mike Golden & Big Daddy: The finals of the Georgia Tag Team Title tourney saw Grizzly have Big Daddy pinned with the ref distracted by Festus. Golden hit Grizzly with his bodyguard's cane and placed Daddy on top of Grizzly for the pin. Golden and Daddy win the straps. Daddy is a muscled up black heel with a Hulk Hogan type hairdo. His mic work is good and his ringwork is improving. The match was bad as the Hillbillies can't work. Festus (Billy Starr) can work but is limited by the gimmick was Grizzly Boone can't work period.) DUD

8) Nick Busick vs. Gentleman Ken Timbs: This is for the Georgia Heavyweight Title. Timbs was a last minute sub for No-Show Bud-Ro (Buddy Landell for those uninitiated in the kayfabe lingo). Timbs pinned Busick to apparently win Nick's title, however the decision was reversed when it was discovered that Timbs had used an "international" object. *1/4

9) Battle Royal: All undercard entrants except for Powell, the Nightmare, Busick, and Rose start. The final three are Gage, Deaton, and Festus. As Festus is eliminated, Rose emerges from the lake and enters the ring. He tosses both Deaton and Gage over the top to win the thing. After being eliminated, Lawler and Minelli brawl all over (and I mean ALL OVER) the beach and picnic area. Post match stuff was better than what was in the ring, and that is saying something. **

RAMBLINGS: Jerry Lawler vs. Junkfood Dog was to headline but since JFD joined Ole's army, the entire match was called....They have a return date for the same setting on July 4th which is to be called Beach Blast '90 and is to be headlined by an Escape From Alcatraz Battle Royal.....Literally (with apologies to Gorilla Monsoon), I can't wait.

Correspondent's Corner

Worcester Centrum (WWF)

Worcester, MA

May 18, 1990

Correspondent: Louie Fortuna

1) Jim Powers beat Pez Whatley with a sunset flip out of the corner in 10:44 for the win. 2) Hillbilly Jim beat Brooklyn Brawler with a boot to the face in 7:52. 3) Dino Bravo side suplexed Terry Rooster in 11:29. 4) Bushes downed Honkey Tonk & Greg Valentine via DQ in 15:26 as ref took a bump due to Luke being thrown into him. 5) Barbarian downed Jimmy Snuka with the use of the ropes in 9:18. 6) Sherri rolled up Sapphire when Savage was distracting at 3:39. 7) Dusty Rhodes scored the pinfall on Randy Savage after using the pocketbook at 5:24. Att: 3,000

Georgia Mountain Center

Gainesville, GA

May 26, 1990

Correspondent: Scott Hudson

(This was a TBS taping which aired the past two weeks so if you watched the shows, you might want to skip this report, but for those that don't get TBS, its a must read,) Show aired 5/26- Tommy Rich & Johnny Ace over State Patrol....Jim Ross interviews Flair & Ole and tells them he has a big surprise (big, he wasn't kidding)...Arn Anderson squashes Paul Drake while Mr. Wrestling II does commentary...Rocky King comes out and emphasizes the surprise....Cactus Jack gets ready to wrestle King but Ole and Flair come out and tell Manson to take a hike which he does. They corner King and ask what the surprise is when it comes out. Junkyard Dog. He's been eating too much Alpo. He kicks Flair's tail. Ric sold to the hilt.... Doug Furnas beat Zan Panzer....Doom over Jerry Price and Tim Parker....Steiners destroy Joe Cruz & Jerry Rose....It's announced that

Flair will meet JFD at the next Clash on 6/13. Can't wait....Road Warriors over Ned Brady & Rick Fargo....Mark Callous beat Lee Scott....Brian Pillman pinned Italian Stallion....Southern Boys over Mark Kyle & Dutch Mantell. TBS 6/2 - Brian Pillman over Barry Horowitz (probably get jobber of the year if he sticks) Mean Mark beat ?....Southern Boys over Galaxians.... Furnas pinned Green Shadow....Freebirds beat Price & Jim Rogers....Midnight beat Rose & Scott....Rich pinned Brady....Roadies over Barry Windham & Arn Anderson via DQ as Sid Vicious and Ole jump in but JYD, Sting and... Paul Orndorff make the save. Great match....Scott Steiner beat Kyle and dropped Mark right on his head with the Frankensteiner. Att: 1,500

Philadelphia Civic Center (NWA) Philadelphia, PA May 27, 1990
Correspondent: Evan Ginzburg

1) Doug Furnas pinned Cactus Jack. ** 2) Norman beat Dennis Allen. Who? Dud 3) Mark Callous beat Tom Zenk. * 4) Doom defended their World Tag belts beating the Southern Boys. ** 5) Tommy Rich pinned Dutch Mantell. * 6) Roadies & JYD over Barry, Arn, and Flair. ***
Evan says the worst card he's seen in Philly. Then why the decent grades bud? Maybe you explain in next column. Att: 1,500 pitiful

A.J. Palumbo Center (NWA) Pittsburgh, PA June 1, 1990
Correspondent: John Lanigan

1) Cheetah Kid beat Cactus Jack in 8:16 with a Jushin Riger somersault from the top rope. B- 2) Norman pinned Ray Appollo (fat guy) when Normie sat on him for the win. D 3) Mean Mark Callous beat Johnny Ace in 16:21 with a heartpunch. Ace is getting John's vote for most improved. C 4) Rick Steiner beat Barry Windham on a reversal in 13:24 as Barry used the ropes for the pin but JFD came down to inform the ref he needed a seeing eye dog. B 5) Doom retained their belts by defeating Robert Gibson & Scott Steiner (sub for Morton) in 16:22. Gibson had Simmons in a sleeper when Reed came off the top rope and hit Robert in the back and Ron got the pin. B 6) Lex Luger over Ric Flair via outside interference DQ (Is that all this group knows?) as after a Luger powerslam, Windham ran in but JFD evened things out. B Att: 1,200

(continued from page 3)

Fuller in a match where one guy from each team had to wear a boxing glove.. Terminator and Mike Awesome also returned on that show as well.... Lou Perez beat Jimmy Backlund for the PWF lightweight title at the PWF tapings on 5/29....Good luck to Wade Keller who will be going weekly with his Pro Wrestling Torch. His new rates are \$5.00 for each four issue set and you can order at P.O. Box 201844, Minneapolis, MN 55420.... Terry Teagarden of 1515 Crestwood Rd., Toledo, OH 43612 is looking for tapes of Portland Wrestling. If you can help him out, drop him a line.... Donny Laible is looking for the whereabouts of Bobby Harmon who worked as "Beautiful Bobby" under the Grand Wizard. Anyone that has info can contact Donny at P.O. Box 443, Illion, NY 13357....Thanks to Cody Boynes who had me on as a last second replacement for John Studd on 5/22. Unfortunately, it was one of his last shows as due to budget cuts, he was let go....Wrestling Observer's Dave Meltzer currently on a tour of Japan. No word on if he'll get a return tour. Depends on how much he "kay fabes" the Japs....Mucho thanks go to Bruce Ginevan who copped a number of us second row seats to the Bash PPV in Baltimore. It's going to be a wild time...."AR" hats are going better than I thought but there are still plenty to go around. I'll have another order form next week.... Since this is the last thing I'm typing, thanks to everyone that makes putting this sheet out, so much fun. See ya, Ron

A PIECE OF MY MIND BY EVAN GINZBURG

Well, another month's gone by and that means two things- we're that much closer to the birth of Baby Abdullah Lemieux, and it's also time for another "Piece Of My Mind..." Ron requested another "ramblings" style column so join me for another swim through my stream of consciousness...

Ric Rude meets Ultimate Warrior hereon the June Meadowlands card. That's fine, except for the fact that Akeem, The Bushwackers, Beefcake, Bravo (and that's just the nightmarish A's & B's!) are there too. Even if the main-event was as hot as their match at SummerSlam, who has the intestinal fortitude (as Lou Albano would say) to sit through these other buffoons? If you're going to crown a new champ, why surround him with chumps? Give him a chance to draw!...Here's a sample WWF card I'd pay to see, using ongoing feuds--Rude/Warrior, Rockers-Express, Dibiase-Bossman, Savage-Rhodes plus maybe Demolition-Hart Foundation as the sheets have been reporting its a hot feud(although it's hard to believe since Demolition have been in about 800 stinkers in a row over the past few years...Is it my imagination or is Jake "The Snake" another guy to add to the washed up list?...Ditto Bad News who once drew 40,000 vs. Inoki in India...Wow! Gee! Golly! wasn't that Inter-Continental tournament incredible exciting?...Man, look at all the space I've **WASTED** on the WWF...let's get onto matters of real importance--like plugging my sheet! Ron commented that I never miss an opportunity to plug Wrestling-Then & Now, but he conveniently forgot that in issue #2 I shattered the all-time plug record by mentioning Arena Report 16 times (really)! Free issue to any new readers who sends a SASE to PO Box 4871, Oakland Gdns. Station, Flushing, N.Y. 11364...Speaking of bulletins (see how this stream of consciousness stuff works-pretty cool, huh?), the wars between the sheets continue to rage. Seems to me that sheet editors are quick to attack greedy, uncooperative promoters for not working together, but when it comes to attacking each other, that's Kosher. I truly believe that if you put something on paper and people pay for it, you **should** accept constructive criticism and gear your product towards your readers' needs--however, when editors make **personal** attacks on each other it just comes off as sour grapes and is definitely a waste of space; as they say in the teaching biz, criticize the action--not the child himself...also to those editors who won't plug another sheet because the editor's not a subscriber, you guys get the "gas face" too- this is a labor of love for 95% of us, not a freakin' livelihood...It's a good thing that Abdullah left the NWA--I just don't picture him as Norman's playmate, the Cookie monster, or whatever the hell they had him doing...Speaking of big fellas, I think the WWF could use Buddy Rose in some sort of comedic role-it's a waste to have a name wrestler like him getting squashed every match...you know, basic psychological theory dictates that over-eaters are unhappy people who are trying to "feed their souls," and not their stomachs-if such is the case, Buddy must be one depressed dude...Another guy I feel sorry for is Greg Valentine (a puffy, slowed-down Ex-Champ reduced to playing a cartoon character--Greg's a sorry sight)...Does anyone remember that the WWF title was once **held up** in N.Y. after a Valentine-Backlund match-up? Back then when Greg Valentine walked down the aisle, a hush fell over the arena--he was intense and great in his day, but his day has long passed...Excited again by the NWA--once Sting's back it should be hot...wish they'd get back Tully or Ricky again, that would be hot...let me know if you prefer this style of column or the older ones where I just plain got silly for paragraphs at a time...running out of space and ideas...Dirty Dick Daniels on WMET (1150 AM) in Maryland is running a "Save Terry Funk" campaign--you may want to get involved- love that crazy Funkster...Catch you all next time...

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It's My 2-Cents
by Mike Terry

The WWF needs to pay some serious attention to its television product. Frankly, it's dull and predictable. Granted--what's boring to a hardcore fan may not be boring to a casual fan. But I still think there is a point to be made. Consider the basic format of every weekly show: a series of squash matches in which the star totally overwhelms an obviously inferior opponent. Week after week after week. The WWF needs a creative transfusion. I may not have the answer, but you bet I've got an opinion. I'd recommend more out-of-ring video features. The Rick Rude series is a good example. Long time WWF fans remember "Lunch with the Dr. David Schultz family". or the Dick Murdoch/Adrian Adonis tour of the New York City ghetto. One a week would help establish the persona of the feature performer as well as provide a diversion from the blandness. The WWF must consider their target audience: they're the MTV generation. They respond to and expect slickly produced videos. The WWF must keep challenging the audience if they expect them to return, especially as the luster of some of the now well-worn stars begin to dim.

The NWA, on the other hand, seems to be programming its shows much more intelligently. Each show (not just during sweeps months) has a main event. Many angles are shot during the TV shows which not only hooks the audience for that show, but also recycles them to next week's show to see the blowoff.

Both promotions now begin their programs by highlighting that hours performers. That's fine for viewers who are tuned in right at the top of the hour. But many aren't. The producers need to start going into commercial/event center breaks by teasing who's still to come. Some of those breaks are four minutes long, and without a reason to stick around, many in the audience will bail out.

For what it's worth, until next month, it's my 2-cents!

Letters To "A.R."

NWA Booker

I must admit that my mouth hit the floor when I read in Arena Report that the NWA is actually considering some of the names you gave as possible bookers. It is insane that with all the in-ring talent that WCW Inc. has assembled, that they still seem to grasping at straws when it comes to the overall direction of the promotion. Sad too, because the product is often the finest presented in America today.

Greg Petrosino

Bel Air, MD

RL- As everyone knows by now, Ole Anderson was handed the book and they're still grasping for straws. Probably always will.

Yarman The Booker

Here's an angle I would use if I booked the NWA: Week 1: Have Sting and Lex Luger come out and say they have a big surprise next week for the Four Horsemen, they keep bragging saying this guy knows the Horsemen better than anyone. As the show ends, have the Horsemen all together ranting and raving about who it could be.

Following week: To start the show, Lex and Sting say the sides are starting to even but won't tell who it is until later in the show. During a squash with a six man tag, Flair, Barry, and Arn against three jobbers, Lex and Sting come out. It's time to bring out their surprise. They break into the ring and go after the Horsemen but they are still outnumbered three to two so out of nowhere comes Tully Blanchard to even it out.

Afterwards, Blanchard gives interviews saying the Horsemen turned their backs on him saying that when he wanted to come back, they turned him down so he called Lex and Sting.

Well, I think the NWA needs another face, it might work. What do you think? Maybe it could be Rick Steamboat's time to come back also.

Greg Yarman
Seville, OH

RL- What do I think? I think you sent this to the NWA offices as like I said in "Ramblings", Tully is due in as a face.

Leave Me Alone

I would like to add a hearty second to Marilyn Trundles call for you to make Arena Report a weekly. Why not open the subject up for all your readers?

Kent "Klon" Herron
Melbourne, FL

RL- First of all pal, its Rundle not Trundle. Second, read the title of your letter.

Fanzine Memorabilia

Arena Report baseball caps? That will go nicely with my Ringside Reflector pen. Now if the correspondents and fans could only get Observer T-shirts, (sleeveless to show our muscular arms due to the writing and to follow the example of our esteemed leader), Matwatch wrestling note pads, Torch cameras, Forum stopwatches, and a PWE punctuation book, we'd be all set.

John Lanigan
McKeesport, PA

BT Express

Oh me!! An Arena Report cap? Damn, I think caps are the only thing I don't sell in Tape Update. Cool idea so send me one. I've enclosed my check. I didn't cut the cute little coupon because it would take some vital information from my new issue of AR.

Been enjoying recent issues of AR. Marilyn Rundle seems to be one cool br..(I guess I got that J.Z. in me also.) woman. Is this girl married? Is she interested in a 23 year old blond blue eyed hunk? If she is, tell her what I have left of my hair is blond (that Hulk style), I have blue eyes, and one of my girlfriends once called me "a pile of shit", so I guess that qualifies me as a "hunk".

What is the number of the litter all of the Mullins' misfits came from? I bet Papa and Mama Mullins knew about the birds and the bees. Jersey Joe seems to be the wackiest. Thank God there are only two Zingers.

Brian Tramel
Jonesboro, AR

RL- Sorry Marilyn, I can't keep them away. There are a couple of other interested parties. Maybe AR can run the "Marilyn Rundle Sweepstakes" with an all expense paid trip to New Paltz, NY.

RL For President

Yeah, like I'm going to cut up my copy of Arena Report so I can order a baseball cap. Come on man, those babies are cherished collectors items. You should know that. Well, send me a cap and tack on 4 more issues to my sub. Four more issues, four more issues, four more issues. Kind of reminds me of campaigning for Nixon back in '72. I guess I was showing signs of political awareness back at the age of five. First

Nixon, now let's put RL in office. Then again, we have to wait another seven years before you could be a legal candidate don't we? Then again, those rumors about you, Zinger and the 14 year old felony could disqualify you anyways.

Paul MacArthur
Camillus, NY

RL- Don't ever group me with that Canuck!!!

Enjoys AR

Got issue #18 of "AR" recently and I enjoyed it, another good issue as usual. Your last three issues have had some interesting and entertaining material in them. I really like your Florida reports, Scott Hudson's Georgia news, and stuff from Jersey Joe Mullins and Evan Ginzburg. The "Ramblings" section is always good and informative.

One negative comment though. I don't care for Marilyn Rundle's WWF "news". Her report in #16 and #17 sounded like some teenage girls attending a rock concert. Let me live without WWF fanatics, please!

David Williamson
Cleveland, TN

RL- Oh boy, are you opening up yourself for some fun. Marilyn is quickly becoming a cult hero of "AR". But she can handle herself. I'm sure we'll see a reply.

Harry Speaks

Sorry I keep forgetting but you should be used to my erratic and Alzheimer type behaviour by now. I travelled to D.C. and had a good time and enjoyed the card. The only down side was I wanted to meet Robo Cop and called every hotel in town and no Mr. Cop or Robo Cop was registered at any of them.

I don't know if I would travel to Florida to see a card. I once drove all the way from the Florida Keys to Orlando just to see the great attraction Disney World. I drove all that way and spent \$26 to get in and I never saw one fat lady, fire breather, two headed cow, human pin cushion, or tattooed lady or anything else like that. Just another example of a Florida tourist rip off compared to the old time local entertainment I grew up with.

You have to get John Lanigan to come down for some home cooking. He lost thirty pounds and looks like a ghost since he gave up the corn dogs and cotton candy at the matches. Since he lost all that weight, I'm afraid his girl Sapphire will drop him.

Harry White
St. Louis, MO

Damn Yankee

How a guy from Boston ended up in Lake Mary, Florida doing a newsletter, I don't know. But aren't we lucky you did. Just got AR today. I think we may be witnessing something special between Marilyn (ed. That name again.) and Jersey Joe! Not sure about the baseball hat. Great idea, but I'm just not the hat type. Maybe I'll get one and give it to the boys.

Marianne Ryan
Chicago, IL

RL- Poor Marilyn. Imagine marrying into the Mullins clan. Heaven help us. If you do pass on an AR hat to one of the boys, make sure its someone who likes the sheets.